

Application No. 10/533,705
Paper Dated: October 3, 2005
In Reply to USPTO Correspondence of September 7, 2005
Attorney Docket No. 3988-050399

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1-12. (Canceled)

13. (New) A valve, comprising a housing into which an intake connecting piece, an outlet connecting piece, and a pressure relief outlet discharge, and a spherical closing part, mounted so it is rotationally movable by a lever, wherein the outlet connecting piece is connected to the pressure relief outlet in a closed position, wherein an air supply inlet also discharges into the housing and the spherical closing part is rotatable by more than 90°, such that after a closing motion around 90°, the closing part is further rotatable in the closing direction with the valve closed until the outlet connecting piece is connected to the air supply inlet with the pressure relief outlet closed again.

14. (New) The valve according to claim 13, wherein the further rotation into the purge setting is performed around an angle in the range of about 20° to about 45°.

15. (New) The valve according to claim 14, wherein the further rotation into the purge setting is performed around an angle of about 30°.

16. (New) The valve according to claim 13, wherein the lever is locked to the housing in its closed setting.

17. (New) The valve according to claim 16, wherein the locking is performed in a spring-loaded operation.

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18. (New) The valve according to claim 13, wherein the spherical closing part has double bearings.

19. (New) The valve according to claim 13, wherein the spherical closing part is sealed in relation to the intake connecting piece, the pressure relief outlet, and the air supply inlet with a respective spring-loaded sealing ring.

20. (New) The valve according to claim 13, wherein cast webs are provided in the spherical closing part to guide the sealing rings to the pressure relief outlet and to the air supply inlet.

21. (New) The valve according to claim 19, wherein the sealing rings are made of glass-fiber reinforced plastic.

22. (New) The valve according to claim 13, wherein the spherical closing part is supported toward the outlet connecting piece using a thrust collar made of bearing metal.

23. (New) The valve according to claim 13, wherein the spherical closing part is manufactured from cast iron in a hard-chromium plated embodiment.

24. (New) The valve according to claim 13, wherein the housing is made of stainless steel.

25. (New) The valve according to claim 13, wherein the valve is at least one of a vapor valve and a steam valve.

26. (New) The valve according to claim 13, wherein the lever is a hand lever.

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27. (New) The valve according to claim 14, wherein the lever is locked to the housing in its closed setting.

28. (New) The valve according to claim 15, wherein the lever is locked to the housing in its closed setting.

29. (New) The valve according to claim 14, wherein the spherical closing part has double bearings.

30. (New) The valve according to claim 15, wherein the spherical closing part has double bearings.

31. (New) The valve according to claim 16, wherein the spherical closing part has double bearings.

32. (New) The valve according to claim 17, wherein the spherical closing part has double bearings.